

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 SY-05
DODE-00 CIAE-00 FBIE-00 INSE-00 NSAE-00 L-03
INR-07 INRE-00 SSO-00 /041 W
-----151115Z 088629 /14

O R 151042Z APR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6587
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 2783

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF
SUBJ: WCRP ACTIVITIES -- ROLAND AND LEAP DAL

REF: A. STATE 80153
B. STATE 83289

1. IN LENGTHY CONVERSATION APRIL 14, MISOFF URGED UPON
DEPUTY HIGH COM. MACE THAT UNHCR BEND EVERY EFFORT TO
EFFECT LANDINGS OF INDOCHINESE ABOARD LEAP DAL AND ROLAND
IN THAILAND AND MALAYSIA AT EARLIEST DATE,
AND CONTINUE ACTIVE REPRESENTATIONS WITH GOVERNMENTS
CONCERNED TO THIS END. NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF EXISTING
SITUATION FOR ALL PARTIES INVOLVED WERE PARTICULARLY
STRESSED IN ARGUING CASE WITH MACE.

2. MACE STATED THAT UNHCR WAS DEEPLY CONCERNED OVER
PLIGHT OF THOSE ON THESE VESSELS, CITING ABYSMAL AND
WORSENING CONDITIONS ABOARD. MATTER IS BEING ACTIVELY
STUDIED AND DISCUSSED AT TOP LEVELS IN UNHCR, MACE SAID,
MOST RECENTLY THAT MORNING. IN HIS MEETING WITH
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JACK (REF A), MACE REPORTED HE TOLD LATTER THAT IN HIS
VIEW WCRP, HAVING CREATED SITUATION, SHOULD BE MORE ACTIVELY AND
DIRECTLY INVOLVED NOW IN SEEKING ITS RESOLUTION. (THIS
WOULD POSSIBLY EXPLAIN JACK'S FEELING GIVEN IN REF A THAT
UNHCR HAD "GIVEN UP" ON ISSUE).

3. MACE CONTENTED THAT OF 7500 BOAT PEOPLE UNDER UNHCR

MANDATE ONLY 3000 HAD THUS FAR BEEN RESETTLED, AND THAT 4500 REMAINING HAD PRIORITY CLAIM TO RESETTLEMENT OVER THOSE ON ROLAND AND LEAP DAL. FURTHER, HE STATED, ON ONE BOAT IT HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED THERE WAS ONLY ONE LEGITIMATE BOAT CASE REFUGEE. MISOFF POINTED OUT THAT PRIORITIES WERE NOT AT ISSUE HERE, NOR EVEN STATUS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS, BUT THE NEED TO RESOLVE AN INCREASINGLY DESPERATE PROBLEM INVOLVING PEOPLE WHO ARE VIEWED, CORRECTLY OR NOT, AS REFUGEES, AND WHOSE CONDITIONS WILL CERTAINLY DETERIORATE FURTHER UNLESS PROMPT REMEDIAL MEASURES ARE TAKEN.

4. ACCORDINGLY, MISOFF SAID THAT WHILE WE ARE NOT DIRECTLY ENGAGED IN THIS SPECIFIC ISSUE, IT NONETHELESS SEEMED TO US THAT THE BEST INTERESTS OF ALL LAY IN SEEKING THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE HUMANE RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM. WE WOULD THEREFORE URGE IN STRONGEST TERMS THAT UNHCR REPRESENTATIVES IN BANGKOK AND KUALA LUMPUR CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO EFFECT THE LANDINGS OF THOSE ABOARD THESE BOATS THROUGH CONTINUED DIRECT INTERVENTIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENTS. MACE SAID MATTER WOULD CONTINUE TO BE GIVEN ENERGETIC PRIORITY ATTENTION HERE AND WOULD BE TAKEN UP DIRECTLY WITH HIGH COMMISSIONER UPON HIS RETURN TO GENEVA FROM CURRENT TRIP ABROAD. ONE POSSIBILITY UNDER CONSIDERATION IS DISPATCH OF HIGH LEVEL UNHCR REP FROM HERE TO INTERCEDE WITH GOVERNMENTS.

5. MEANWHILE, MACE EXPECTS TO MEET WITH JACK (WHO WILL BE ENROUTE TO A MEETING IN STOCKHOLM) HERE NEXT MONDAY, APRIL 18. SORENSON
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D770131-0584
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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